

Almagest

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Louisiana State University in Shreveport

February 13, 1987



Four Chinese tourists visit the Forbidden City in Beijing, China. Please see p. 4.

Local attorney opposes removal of consent decree

by BRIDGET WILLIAMS
Ad Manager
BARBARA POWELL
Editor

Although local attorney Troy Bain once led a legal fight to remove the consent decree which the Caddo Parish schools have been operating under since 1981, he is now opposed to its removal.

Bain explained why in a speech Tuesday in the LSUS University Center and in a subsequent phone interview. His speech, entitled "Jones vs. the Caddo Parish School Board: A Ghost Story of Desegregation in the Schools of Caddo Parish," was scheduled as part of the observance of Afro-American Heritage Month on campus.

"I opposed the decree because I thought it didn't do anything for the children in the Allendale-Queensboro area," said Bain. And those children, he explained, were supposed to directly benefit from the decree.

"The problem with the decree was that it mainly helped whites; they benefited from it more than blacks. And it mainly help set up magnet schools."

One of the purposes of the magnets was to lure more white students into black schools. Bain said the school board erred in its choice of location for the

magnets.

"I think that the magnets should have been formed in areas such as Martin Luther King Drive. Instead they were formed in the middle of South Highlands," and, he said, in black pockets such as Eden Gardens. As a result, more whites go to magnets than do blacks, he said.

Now the board is asking that the consent decree be removed and that the Justice Department grant a racially unified status for the Caddo school system. Bain is opposed to this.

He cited statistics from the School Board concerning the number of black and white students in specific schools up to the period ending May 1986. As of that date, 43 percent of the black students were in predominately black schools. In the 16 schools that were over 80 percent black, there were 14 black principals and two white. In the 38 schools that were 50 percent or more white, there were 31 white principals and seven black.

"What I'm saying is that historically in this parish we have not educated our blacks as well as our whites," he said. "We should do more to help black students."

Since the dropout rate is so high at schools such as Fair Park and

Greenacres (predominately black), we need to have special programs to identify those

students who are potential dropouts, and help them. The entire history of desegregation lawsuits and Caddo Parish School Board resistance to desegregation is a horror story," Bain said.

Bain said that the School Board is operating under the fear of forced busing. "One of the buzz words in the '60s was integration. It is a word that has a bad connotation among whites. The word got mixed in with the term forced busing. I use the word desegregation. It is the legal term. It means tearing down segregation."

He said that the School Board's solution to desegregation is to "form TV programs," referring to the telecommunications enhancement program at Booker T. Washington High School, which the School Board is trying to implement.

"What they (blacks) need is fundamental academics so they don't drop out," he said. "You have only 40 percent of the blacks across the state graduating from high school. And you're going to solve the problem with a TV show? It's absurd."

Bogue weighs Tenn. option

by DOREEN LAFAUCI
Managing Editor

Chancellor Grady Bogue is one of seven candidates being considered for the presidency of Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, Tenn.

Bogue made the announcement Wednesday morning in a Dean's Council meeting. He said his concentration remains with LSUS, but he is considering the post in Tennessee.

Dr. Mary Ann McBride, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, expressed her surprise at the announcement.

"I regret it very much. We feel as if we've been on a roller coaster with all the uncertainties," she said. "This is just the most serious one."

Bogue is a native of Memphis, Tenn., where he served as director of academic affairs for the

Tennessee Higher Education Commission. He has been with LSUS since 1980.

In an interview with The Times, Bogue described his nomination for the job as an "emotional tug of heart." Bogue said his family is torn between "our love of University and community here and an opportunity in Tennessee only a few miles from our families."

Bogue's possible departure follows last month's resignation of a new vice-chancellor of Business Affairs, Morris Foster. Also leaving is Dr. Thomas Lloyd Chestnut, associate vice-chancellor of Academic Affairs for graduate studies and research.

Chestnut is taking a position at Ohio University. "There's greater challenge and opportunity."

Scholarships offered

The LSUS American Studies program is offering two full scholarships (airfare, hotel, registration, and meals) to attend the annual Spring Symposium on the American Presidency in Washington, D.C. from March 19 to the 22nd.

Application forms are available in the American Studies Office, BH 148. Sophomores and Juniors will be given preference, as well as students who write an 8-10 page essay on the topic "Secure the Blessings of Liberty." Completed forms and essays are due no later than February 23rd. The

American Studies Committee will announce the Scholarship recipients on March 2nd.

The Student Symposium on the American Presidency is the annual Spring activity of the LSUS American Studies Program, the largest privately-endowed program on campus. This year's Symposium will observe the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. Invited speakers include President Reagan, Attorney General Ed Meese, Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger, as well as numerous Congressmen, justices, scholars and media persons.

Ex-mayor joins LSUS

Chancellor E. Grady Bogue has announced the appointment of James C. Gardner, formerly of Southwestern Electric Power Co., to the chancellor's staff at LSUS.

Gardner, a former Shreveport mayor and city councilman, will be employed in university advancement and in strengthening

the university's avenues of service with the community, Bogue said.

He will work on a part-time basis from offices in Suite 262 of the new Administration Building.

Gardner's retirement was effective at SWEPCO on Feb. 1, the same day his appointment began at LSUS.

opinions

Opinions expressed in the *Almagest* are those of the Editorial Board or the writer of the article.

Truth aids awareness

When the Riverside County, Calif. coroner announced Monday that Liberace had died of a disease caused by AIDS, he ended days of speculation by the media about what the entertainer had been dying of.

Why should it be anyone's business what Liberace died of?

The press could not let the man rest in peace, first of all because of who he was. Liberace was world famous. And when a famous person dies, the public wants, even demands, to know what he died from.

It was unrealistic of Liberace's doctor and friends to attempt to keep the cause of his death private. By admitting the truth, they could have avoided the media circus surrounding Liberace's death.

More importantly, when the cause of death is AIDS, the truth should be revealed. Health officials warn that AIDS is fast on its way to becoming an epidemic. And mandatory reporting of AIDS as a cause of death is being urged by the Centers for Disease Control.

Reporting the truth about Liberace's death may help focus attention on a deadly disease which is fast becoming our No. 1 health concern.

Liberace died last Wednesday, at the age of 67. The cause of death was AIDS. May he rest in peace.

Labs need new times

Realizing the cash flow is limited at LSUS, we can understand why previously open-all-day computer labs are now available to computer science majors in half-day sessions, but why must lab hours begin at 11:00 a.m.?

LSUS is a commuter college, therefore, students do not live on campus.

The average age of LSUS students is 26. That average student is also projected as being female, divorced and raising two children. It is not unlikely to assume, therefore, the average student also works, presumably in the afternoon, meaning these students are on campus during the morning hours.

With these assumptions in mind, along with the fact that LSUS has seen fit to provide its students with a morning break (10:30-11:15 a.m.) on Tuesday and Thursday, we suggest it would be beneficial to most, if not all, computer science majors, to have computer lab at LSUS that was open during the morning hours.

We are not asking for more money to be spent, only that it be wisely spent, reaching the majority when the majority is on campus.

History repeats itself

by DONALD GARRETT
Sports Editor

Ronald Reagan is the second lame-duck president America has had since the enactment of laws limiting a president to only two consecutive terms in office.

It would appear that Reagan is making some of the same errors that America's other lame-duck president, Dwight David Eisenhower made during his final term from 1956-1960.

In the great cyclical view of history, man seems destined to repeat the same mistakes over and over again with slight variations from decade to decade and generation to generation. Existing slightly less than 30 years apart the administrations of Eisenhower and Reagan have followed parallel patterns in the cycle of history.

Eisenhower and Reagan, both Republicans, and elder statesmen of their party, faced like but different challenges when they came to power in 1952 and 1980 respectively. Each man was extremely popular with the American public and was elected by a landslide.

Ike had the enduring love and admiration of the American people for his unquestioned and rock solid leadership of Allied forces during World War II. America was bogged down in the Korean War in 1952 and Eisenhower's leadership and experience were sorely needed.

"If you elect me," Eisenhower promised America, "I will bring a just peace." After much haggling, President Eisenhower negotiated a Korean peace treaty that was both fair and honorable for all nations concerned.

With the Korean Conflict concluded, Ike led America through a boom time in the mid 50's that saw more Americans than ever before share in the wealth and prosperity that is the American dream.

When Ronald Reagan entered office in 1981, America was staggering under double-digit inflation and high unemployment, which was compounded by America's low self-esteem abroad because of the Iranian hostage crisis.

Reagan's economic recovery plan reduced inflation to its lowest rate in 10 years and had many more Americans working than when he took office. On the foreign relations front Reagan put forth a solid program that had both substance and foresight and rebuilt American armed

forces so that his foreign policies had some bite. America's self esteem was restored both at home and abroad.

It was not surprising that Ronald Reagan won the largest popular vote in American history in winning re-election in 1984.

But Reagan, like Eisenhower before him, ran into a serious foreign relations problem in his second term. For Eisenhower it was the spread of communism in America's backyard and for Reagan it was the insidious spread of international terrorism, with America and Americans as the prime targets.

When Fidel Castro's Russian-backed communists overthrew the corrupt Batista regime in Cuba, Eisenhower had every right to invoke the Monroe Doctrine and throw Castro all the way to the Kremlin. But Eisenhower, the man who led vast armies against the scourge that was Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan, suddenly got clay feet and did nothing to stop the communist entrenchment in the Americas. When President Eisenhower did not act against Castro, at a time when the whole world would have supported his actions, the Monroe Doctrine was forever stripped of its meaning and power.

The Cuban thorn in America's side is the only shadow of discredit on the long and illustrious public service career of Eisenhower.

Reagan's efforts to free American hostages from Arab terrorists by dealing arms to Iran

while at the same time talking tough and acting tough on terrorism has caused a serious credibility gap for the President. America's allies in the Middle East and around the world are no longer certain where the United States stands on terrorism.

To compound the problem several underlings in the Reagan Administration, without the President's knowledge, channeled money from the Iran arms sell to the Nicaraguan Contras who are fighting to dislodge a communist government. This has cast further doubt on Reagan's ability to govern his own staff.

Freeing American hostages in Lebanon and establishing better relations with Iran was a just and noble cause for Reagan's Iranian initiative. But the results have been disastrous and Reagan owes the American people an explanation.

Come forward out of the halls of secrecy Mr. President, accept responsibility for your administration and tell the world the complete story of the Iran-Contra episode.

Reagan has a chance to reveal the whole truth and be a positive force during his last two years in office. Failure to fully disclose the story will bring continuing discredit to American foreign policy efforts and cripple the President's ability to run the country.

But if Reagan continues to dodge the Iran-Contra issue then it will become history's shadow on his administration like Cuba is on Eisenhower's administration.

Almagest

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Edwards hard to assess

by BILL BOWEN
Staff Reporter

When Governor Edwin Edwards announced his candidacy last week for an unprecedented fourth term as governor of Louisiana, he ended months of speculation about his intentions to run in a race in which he may be the main issue.

Given that, it seems appropriate to attempt an objective assessment of Edwards' three terms in the governor's mansion — if that is possible. Not given to moderation, Edwards is rarely viewed in moderate terms. People tend to admire him or hate him, with little leeway in between.

The first thing Edwards did as governor was to rewrite the state constitution.

"People forget that Edwards came to office as a reform candidate in a reform election in 1971," said Dr. Vincent Marsala, dean of the School of Continuing Education. "The new constitution was his major campaign issue."

Edwards pressed many reform measures through the legislature in his first term. Among them was the sunshine law, which opened all government processes to the press and public scrutiny; he also helped pass election reform and the enabling act authorizing the reorganization of 300 state agencies into 20 executive departments.

"To his credit," says Dr. Norman Provizer, professor of political science at LSUS, "Edwards made the state face up to its own backwardness in the enormous amount of poverty and the terrible education system."

In his first term Edwards increased spending for education by \$230 million, built 7000 miles of highway with \$767 million, eliminated a one-cent sales tax on food and drugs and repealed the state property tax. He also brought the G.M. plant to Shreveport, made LSUS a four-year college, built I-49 and a portion of the north parking lot at LSUS.

There were also allegations of misconduct: KoreaGate.

He was re-elected in a first-round victory in 1975 with 62 percent of the vote in the primary.

In his second term he changed the way severance taxes on oil and gas were calculated from volume based to value based, giving the state a tremendous boost

of hundreds of millions of dollars in additional revenue during the oil boom of 1974-1982. When Ed-

wards first became governor, oil was a little under \$5 a barrel. In 1979 it was \$12 a barrel and in 1982, \$32.

"Another Edwards legacy was to change the open primary," says Dr. Provizer, "This was done to kill the Republican Party, which was becoming a nuisance, by eliminating them in the first round. But the net effect was to virtually insure a single Republican in the runoff while the Democratic votes were fragmented by several candidates from their ranks."

Republican Dave Treen came to the governorship, not through a true Republican victory, but through a political fluke. Treen and Louis Lambert made it to the general election and the Democrats that had been eliminated in the primary threw their support to Republican Treen.

After Treen squeaked to victory, he awarded positions in his administration to the former Democratic contenders. "It was a mistake to let Democrats aspiring to the governorship in a Republican administration," Dean Marsala said.

"Treen didn't know how to delegate," said Dean Marsala. "He spent too much time with detail in his administration and neglected to build a grass-roots base for the Republican party in the state. He's best remembered for the Atchafalaya Basin conservation project."

In 1983 Edwards was swept back into office with 62 percent of the vote in a repudiation of the Treen administration.

Then the oil and gas bubble burst.

Prices plummeted, unemployment soared and state revenues fell. And all of this is coincided with an indictment, investigation and trial of the governor that sapped his political energy and resources at a time when the state needed leadership the most.

The one thing Edwards did accomplish in his third term, before he was neutralized by the indictment, was a \$750 million tax package, the least popular political move of his career thus far.

The investigation and trial disclosures hurt Edwards significantly. Legislators that he

had been able to influence in the past distanced themselves from him. Even after acquittal his only options were to raise taxes or cut services and his lottery and casino gambling proposals have not gained a lot of support.

The legislature, which once waited to see the outcome of the trial, now waits to hear the will of the people. The Louisiana Legislature has not filled the vacuum caused by the governor's de facto abdication. "In fact, the legislature has historically been unable to create any policy initiatives. They rely almost totally on the governor for leadership, unless it's to come up with an emotional issue like drunk drivers or a creationism law," Dean Marsala complains.

Our observers say he may not be dead yet, but most say it'll be the long shot for a fourth term.



Frank Lower and other members of the Grade Enforcers discuss pre-game strategy. photo by Marcus Clemens

Question of the week

Do you consider the Confederate flag, which is flying in front of the courthouse, a symbol of racism?

Greg Ruben, senior, finance: Yes. The underlying symbolism of the flag does not deserve representation near our halls of justice."

Dr. Bill Pederson, assoc. professor of political science: "It would be best if they would get rid of all the concrete and just

give the grass a chance to grow — that would be more organic."

Eric Gipson, senior, journalism: "Yes, although I don't think that the majority of people necessarily see it as a symbol of racism, but more symbolic of Southern Culture, along with such things as grits and fried chicken. But I imagine it's hard to have that perspective if you're black."



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news

Cont. Ed. growing SGA names arts council

by GENA FULLER
Editorial Assistant

Continuing Education is a big business because a lot of learning takes place outside the classroom, according to Vincent J. Marsala, dean of Continuing Education and Special Programs.

"The majority of students today are in continuing education, not in degree programs," said Marsala.

The purpose of the Division of Continuing Education and Special Programs at LSUS is to extend the academic environment and opportunities of the University to the lifelong learner of the Ark-La-Tex region.

Since its inception in 1967, the Division of Continuing Education and Special Programs has grown and will continue to grow because of the population and demand for courses. Last year, 257 activities were offered and 10,825 students were involved. Types of pro-

grams include conferences and institutes, off-campus credit and the Pioneer Heritage Center.

People take these courses, said Marsala, to gain self-satisfaction and help in job placement. Some courses, such as leisure learning may cost only \$30. But a course in Real Estate Sales costs \$350 and a course in Effective Leadership costs \$725.

The division's goal is to employ program development specialists who are trained in continuing education. "We want to design programs for a specific community need — not developing things we think they ought to have," said Marsala.

The success of the division is not in competition with degree programs because some businesses require employees to get credit. But Marsala said, "The strength of the division is the outstanding faculty."

Pre-registration is a necessity because classes will be limited. For further information call 797-5262.

Students like business jobs

by GAVIN FRANCIS
Staff Reporter

One fourth of today's college students are preparing for a career in business, according to a recent study conducted by two UCLA professors and the American Council on Education.

The percentage is higher at LSUS where one third of the students are enrolled in the College of Business. Larry Clark, dean of the College of Business, believes that the older student body at LSUS may account for the higher percentage. "Many of the older students that come back to school often go into a business curriculum," Clark said.

Another reason for the high percentage of business majors is that many incoming freshmen choose to major in business, and then sometime over the course of their first year decide to switch majors.

"We generally don't even see our students in their first year because they are taking general education courses," Clark said. "This gives the student an opportunity to see other disciplines."

Students graduating with a business degree usually have a better opportunity to find jobs right out of school, according to

Bill Stowe, Director of the Placement Office. "A degree in Accounting speaks for itself," said Stowe. "It says something about the skills a student has learned which may not be readily apparent with perhaps a degree in history."

"Our undergraduate program would have already received accreditation if it were not for the fact that we must also receive accreditation for our graduate program at the same time."

The current budget cuts pose a problem for the College of Business which is seeking accreditation for both its Undergraduate and Graduate programs, but Dean Clark says that this will not change the quality of education for students studying business at LSUS.

by DOREEN LAFAUCI
Managing Editor

Last semester, the SGA passed a bill organizing a subordinate body of representatives from the College of Liberal Arts. Last week that body was named the Council of Liberal Arts Students (CLAS).

CLAS is organized with the goal of unifying liberal arts students into an informational body informing liberal arts senators of their needs and wants. Students will be, for the first time, directly linked to happenings within the SGA and kept informed of campus governmental issues, said Senator Bob Wynn.

Wynn and fellow liberal arts senator Cindy Nunn will act as Lt. Governors within CLAS. Once representatives are elected to the council by liberal arts majors, they will elect a CLAS governor.

Wynn said he is hoping freshmen and sophomores will express interest in CLAS so that once the council is on its feet they can take over the reins. He also said he hopes to involve CLAS in revenue-making projects within the SGA this semester.

KDAQ needs volunteers

KDAQ, 89.9FM, public radio for the Ark-La-Tex, is seeking volunteers to help with the station's Spring On-Air Pledge Drive.

The drive will be held from Saturday, Apr. 4, to Saturday, Apr. 11. Volunteers will be needed to answer the telephones from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day. Volunteers are also needed to do data processing and general office assistance, call the station at 797-5150 during business hours.

KDAQ is a cultural service of LSUS. Studios are located on the campus.



A small child bundles up against winter cold at entrance to the Ming Tombs, Beijing, China.

photo by Marilyn Gibson

China tour set

"Springtime in China" is the name of the latest travel/study tour being offered by the LSUS International Study Program.

The 18-day tour, which runs from May 13-20, includes 13 days in China and three days in Hong Kong. The emphasis is on sightseeing and study of the Chinese culture. Sightseeing opportunities include visits to seven cities and lake and river cruises. Cultural performances such as traditional Chinese opera, acrobatics and variety shows and song and dance troupes are also on the agenda.

Marilyn Gibson, an assistant professor of English at LSUS and director of International Studies, will accompany the tour and teach a course in humanities. Mrs. Gibson has been to China once and to Hong Kong twice.

The cost of the tour, which is open to the community as well as students, is \$2985 plus LSUS registration and insurance fee of \$120. The cost covers all expenses: air fare, hotels, three meals daily in China, service charges and taxes. For further information, contact Marilyn Gibson at 797-5248, 797-5124 or 221-6449.

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Regents compel student tests

by DOREEN LAFAUCI
Managing Editor

Before students can graduate, the Louisiana State Board of Regents has mandated they be tested for competency in English and Mathematics, said Dr. Wilfred Guerin, vice-chancellor of Academic Affairs.

The test will apply to incoming freshmen and new transfer students, and in areas where it is not already instituted, it will be implemented next fall.

Guerin said he hoped competency testing will broaden at LSUS into a "value-added" program, in which students are tested at different levels of their course of study to "evaluate or assess the education received."

The idea is to give the student and the University something on which they can judge performance. Such testing would demonstrate whether student learning is taking place and on what level. University officials would have definite numbers (scores) to evaluate student, program and institutional performance.

Guerin believes the logical place for competency testing is after 60 hours of credit and again on the senior level before graduation.

"I would like to see the idea of assessment used all over; it's a good means of evaluating what the student is doing," Guerin said. "Sixty hours is a good place to do it."

Guerin said testing after 60 hours would be beneficial to the student if used as an advisement tool. The student's performance is evaluated, his weak areas ex-

posed, and concentration is put forth in those areas over the next two years, Guerin said.

Overall competency testing would be used by the University in evaluating "Institutional effectiveness," again exposing weak areas in various fields of study and allowing the University to beef up the curriculum in those areas.

Guerin describes the testing as a system of "checks and balances assessing strengths and weakness." He said that in many areas of study such competency testing has already been implemented.

In the Fine Arts Department, for example, after 24-30 hours of credit, each major is to present a sophomore review of his works (a portfolio of art work) to the art faculty. A second review is required after 50 credit hours, and a mandatory senior exhibit is also required before graduation.

Guerin feels the testing is beneficial for students, helping them assess their general education.

"Students will have a sense of confidence and self-knowledge," he said.

Across the nation schools are moving towards assessment.

Tennessee distributes cash to its colleges based on value-added results; Arkansas and Colorado are considering it. The idea has surfaced in New York, Chicago and Milwaukee.

And at Northeast Missouri State University, the assessment program is marking its fourteenth birthday.

250 in remedial work

by Rodney Mallett
Staff Reporter

There are four types of students in LSUS remedial courses.

One type includes those who have scored a composite of 15 or lower on the ACT. If the student feels he does not belong in a particular class, a placement test is given to confirm placement.

Another type of student in remedial classes is the student who is afraid of certain subjects. In this case, remedial courses provide a mental boost as well as a sharpening of skills.

According to Dr. Gail Bridger, director of student affairs, other reasons why students register for

remedial courses are that some students have been away from college for awhile and need to brush up on their skills and others are victims of an inadequate public education.

"Each department has teachers who are interested in remedial classes," Bridger said. "Most of them have a commitment to the program because they see the value of it."

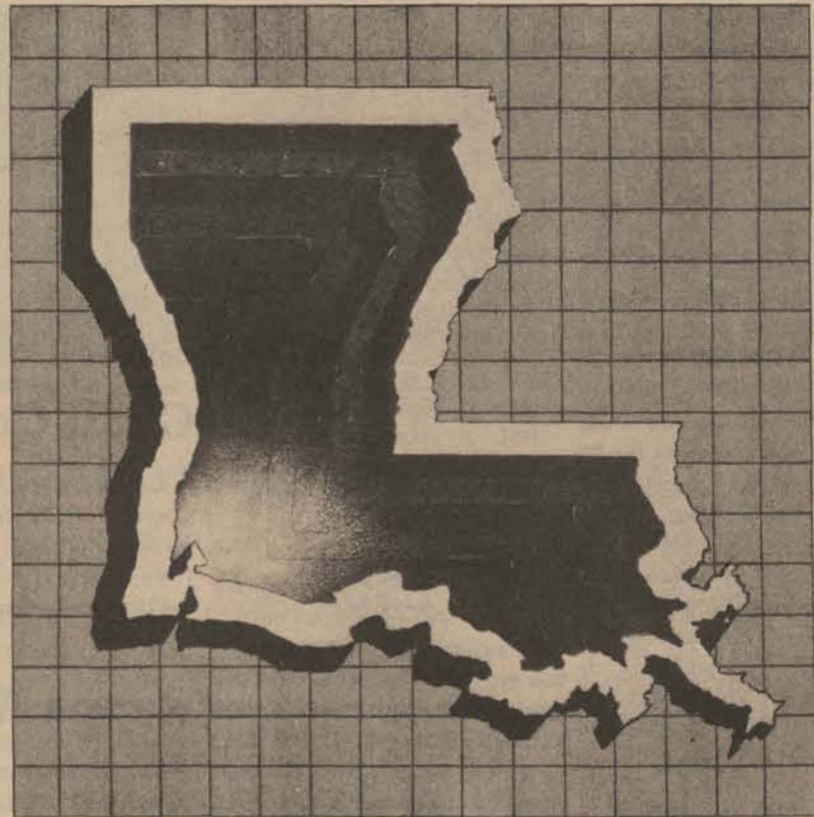
There are 260 students enrolled in developmental classes this semester. Of these, 153 registered for Math 007, 29 enrolled in reading, there are 54 students taking English and there are 125 students participating in the University 100 course.

Historian named advisor

Sally D. Montgomery has been added to the staff of the LSUS American Studies office which has moved to a larger office in 148 Bronson Hall. Ms. Montgomery, a award-winning local historian,

has received an appointment as the first advisor to the annual LSUS Washington Semester. According to Dr. William D. Peder-

son, Director of American Studies, "Ms. Montgomery will be able to give excellent advice to students interested in the Washington Semester for she participated on last year's trip."



INNER STRENGTH

A key ingredient to the economic recovery of Louisiana is the staying power of our own healthy business and industry. Though much is said about those facing hard times, there remains a strong foundation of expanding firms with additional growth potential even in the face of oil price fluctuations.

As our native enterprises succeed and begin to influence new markets, the multiplication of jobs and opportunities follows.

The Louisiana Investor-Owned Electric Companies vigorously encourage ambitious home-grown companies. When a company outgrows its facility, our Area and Industrial Specialists are at hand to help find a new home. Our researchers compile confidential data defining site availability, transportation needs and access, local zoning and regulatory considerations, and much more.

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news briefs

Gruber to speak

Chief of Police Charles Gruber will be the guest speaker at the next meeting of the American Criminal Justice Society.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 1987 at 1:30 p.m. in BH 103.

The public is invited to attend.

River Rose

PRSSA is sponsoring a "Stars and Stripes Victory Celebration" on board the River Rose on February 27th. Tickets are being sold by PRSSA members for \$6 single and \$10 per couple. For more information please contact Joe Trahan, 797-5340, BH 356, or Doreen Lafauci, managing editor, Almagest, BH 344.

PRSSA board members would like to announce a change in club meetings, from Wednesdays at noon to every other Thursday at the free period.

Psych. Club

The Psychology Club will hold an open meeting on Friday, February 13 at 6 p.m. at Brookshire's Cafeteria, Line Avenue-Uptown.

Guest speakers will be Drs. Georgia Wills and Vaughan Staggs who will speak on child abuse.

The next campus meeting will be on Thursday, February 19, at 10:30 a.m. in BE 345. New members are welcome.

Bookstore

The LSUS Bookstore will be taking orders for caps and gowns and announcements between the 16th and 20th of February from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Phi Kappa Phi

The LSUS Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi national honor society is inviting applications from outstanding senior students for a graduate fellowship for up to \$6,000 for first-year graduate professional study.

Fifty of these fellowships will be awarded nationwide. Thirty additional students will receive honorable mention awards of \$500. Each Phi Kappa Phi chapter may nominate one student for these awards.

Graduating seniors who are

Phi Kappa Phi members with outstanding academic and leadership records should contact the Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship Committee Chairman, Richard L. Colquette, in Room 107 of the Library, or call ext. 5072 for additional information.

BSU

The Baptist Student Union is selling casseroles and sweet rolls, priced from \$9-\$16, to help support the summer missionaries it sends out each year. Orders will be delivered the first week of March and anyone seeking more information can contact Karen Duston at 746-8300.

BSU is sponsoring a Valentine's Party Friday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. at the Baptist Student Center.

Miss LSUS

Plans have been announced for this year's Miss LSU Shreveport Scholarship pageant to be held Saturday, February 28 at 7 p.m. in the University Center Theatre on the LSUS campus. The first annual Miss University Princess pageant will be held in conjunction with the pageant.

The Miss LSU Shreveport pageant is an official Miss Denton.

America preliminary contest open to LSUS students ages 17-26. Contestants will be judged in swimsuit, talent, evening gown and interview competition. The winner of the pageant will receive a cash scholarship and prizes and will represent LSUS at the Miss Louisiana Pageant held in Monroe this summer.

The Miss University Princess pageant is open to girls 14-18. Contestants will be judged in evening gown, sportswear and interview competition.

For more information contact Joanne Sullivan Swearingen, pageant director, at 861-7218 between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Choir Concert

The Save the Youth Concert Choir will return for a repeat performance at LSU in Shreveport from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Feb. 17 in the University Center Lobby.

Kappa Alpha

The Brothers of the Kappa Alpha Order, Delta Chi Chapter, would like to announce the addition of three new brothers: Kenneth Wayne Brown, Michael Darren Bodino and Richard Allen Denton.

Exec. says education key

by KATE CHANDLER
Staff Reporter

The Executive Director of the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce advises LSUS Students to "Train yourselves in two different careers."

Mr. Charles Van Rysselberge said in a speech here Tuesday that it is important to circulate and become well known. As a guide, a complete index of clubs and associations in the Shreveport area is available through the Chamber.

Rysselberge recommended

sales as a great opportunity for experience that will pay off in the future. Small business, create more jobs across the nation.

As a point of interest he said that more and more women are operating successful small businesses. And, people who own

their own business work three to four times harder than those who work for someone else.

"Education is the key to the future in terms of job creation," Rysselberge said. "If you are persistent, aggressive and optimistic you will come out ahead."

Panic a menace

by KATHY HOHMANN
Staff Reporter

If you recently rushed to the hospital emergency room with a severe pain in your arm and perspiration or other physical or mental symptoms that mimic a heart attack, but were told that it was just stress, you might be one of millions of people who is prone to panic attacks.

Panic attacks occur most often in the 20-to-40 age group, according to Dr. Andrew Mullen, a local psychiatrist, who was the guest speaker at a recent lunch series lecture sponsored by Charter Counseling Service.

The cause of panic attacks is not known, but they are more prevalent in women. Since they occur less frequently during pregnancy and more during the postpartum period, they are pro-

bably related to the hormonal system. An attack might be triggered by an exam, a job interview, or for no reason at all.

They are more prevalent in women, but panic attacks are more debilitating to men. Male mortality and morbidity rates are higher. Often attacks can lead to alcoholism because alcohol reaches the brain quickly and relieves the panicky feeling.

If left untreated, episodes could lead to anticipatory attacks or phobic withdrawal. The victim may begin to avoid places where help may not be available if an attack occurs — such as a tunnel or an elevator.

"Anyone who is prone to panic attacks should stay away from coffee, diet pills, and illegal drugs — these things trigger panic attacks," warned Mullen.

Councilwoman to talk

Hazel Beard, Shreveport city councilwoman and LSUS graduate, will speak at the "Forty-Minute Forum" on Thursday, February 19 at 10:30 a.m. in Bronson Hall 363.

Her topic is "LSUS: The Turning Point." Mrs. Beard, elected in 1986, is one of two women to

serve on the Shreveport City Council. She is a graduate of Ogden High School in Winnsboro, La., and received her Bachelor of General Studies degree in 1985, when she also was awarded the Academic Excellence Award for General Studies. The public is invited to attend.

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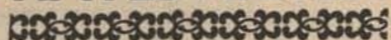


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features

'Platoon' terrifying

by RUSSELL HEDGES
Staff Reporter

The scene in the movie "Platoon" where Tom Berenger puts his revolver against the head of a young Vietnamese girl and threatens to blow her head off is one of the most terrifying ever put on film.

What's even more terrifying is the realization that the slaughter of an entire Vietnamese village appears about to take place, and that slaughter seems almost inevitable in the wake of what Barnes and his men have gone through.

Oliver Stone's "Platoon" never lets up, from the first moments that Chris (Charlie Sheen) is in Vietnam, to his first patrol in the thick leech-infested jungle, to the near slaughter in the hamlet, and finally to the ferocious fire-fight.

The movie is as frightening as any horror film and as action-packed as any World War II melodrama. Stone, who directed the film based on his experiences in Vietnam during 1967 and 1968, never lets the moviegoer think he's safe.

Sheen's character is a naive

young man who enlisted and volunteered for duty in Vietnam. He dropped out of college, and wanted to "find himself."

Once he gets to Vietnam, a battle ensues between Barnes, a cold-blooded killer, and Sgt. Elias, a man of morals but no less a tough soldier. On one side are the potheads and dope smokers, and blacks, or "bloods," led by Elias, and on the other side are the gung-ho types, led by Barnes.

The performances throughout the film are first-rate, with no one actor stealing the picture. William Dafoe's Elias works as the perfect antagonist to Berenger's scar-faced Barnes. The way the two work out their differences seems inevitable, but is still shocking.

Sheen does a good job of showing the fear that must have coursed through the average "grunt" when covering point on his first night patrol. The rest of the cast also shines, especially Kevin Dillon as gung-ho Bunny, who blindly follows Barnes.

But the movie belongs to Stone. It's his vision, and his horror.



The old, abandoned house: It lies just across the service road near the northeast parking lot.

photo by Gavin Francais

Abandoned house stands solemnly

by ANDY SALVAIL
Features Editor

It is late afternoon. The sky is grey and the air cold and damp. The northeast parking lot is practically deserted. Around campus, there are no signs of life except for six or seven ROTC students playing wargames in the intramural fields.

Just across the tiny service road, the shabby white house stands solemnly; it is lonely now and has been for years. It is mere presence extracts feelings of guilt from deep within an intruder's soul.

This is no place to take a date. During springtime, when the wind crashes down upon the tall

oaks that tower above this dingy structure, causing them to wave and sway in a carefree manner, the surroundings can be quite beautiful — especially when the sun peeks through those gigantic oak curtains and thin rays of light illuminate the grimy, ash-colored roof.

But today, the scene is one of discomfort and disgust. There is garbage — here, there and everywhere — making the house an eyesore to passing drivers, faculty joggers and curious, eccentric college journalists like myself.

Broken beer bottles. Chicken bones. An old, rusty barbecue pit. A soggy newspaper is strewn about the porch. The door is

bolted and most of the windows are boarded up.

Go there; visit the house one day. Look inside through the cracks in the sheetrock. There's nothing special to see, just a rotted mattress and the remains of what was once a couch. The floor has completely caved in.

Surprisingly, there's life inside: A family of orange and white cats has made a home for itself here; the felines feed on white mice, insects and minute scraps of food left by former inhabitants. They've become crafty little devils, entering and exiting through the gaping hole in the floorboards. They're happy, and courteous to visitors. Yet, one wonders whether or not they'll survive in this dump, which seems to be falling apart.

They're tough though; it takes courage, strength and spirit to live in a broken-down home. Yes, these stray cats just might make it. Or they could leave in pursuit of more comfortable shelter.

But their plight makes little difference. The hideous white house with the broken windows and garbage and rats will probably always be there, its wicked eyes gazing sharply past rows of parked cars at complacent students filing into various university buildings.

The house across the road — it knows your every move.

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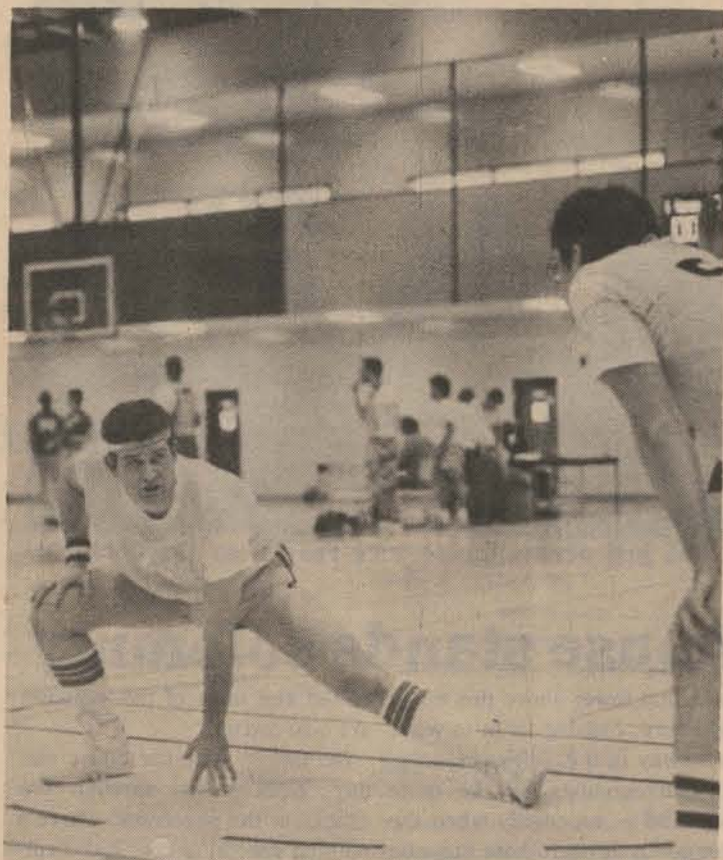


photo by Marcus Clemens

Joe Trahan warms up for IM basketball game.

Trials and tribulations of a weekend golfer

by ANDY SALVAIL
Almagest Links Writer

The scenario:

You've driven your tee shot long and into the extreme rough, about 110 yards from the green. There are many large oak trees with thick, low-hanging branches blocking the path of your second shot. A well-struck 8 or 9-iron shot is likely to be rejected by the treacherous forest.

Most golfers would use their 3-iron in this situation, pitching the ball through an opening between two trees. But you're smarter — and bolder. The 3-iron has too much loft, and besides, it would probably just get the ball back to the fairway. With a long iron, also, is the danger of striking the ball thin and sending it over the green and into the Bloody Mary that Mrs. Faumbucher III is sipping on the clubhouse veranda.

Here's some unorthodox advice: Reach into the golf bag for your putter (heavyweight preferred). Find a clear opening between two trees that will allow for a direct flight to the green. Gripping the putter, address the ball, with your hands slightly ahead of it. Slam the ball through with enough force to reach the green, or at least enough to come

close.

This is a tough shot; it requires much practice, because it is possible to slice and even hook the ball when using the putting stick from faraway distances. But the putter is still a valuable ally; and using it properly for this type of shot will usually work better than an iron would, because there is little or no loft put on the ball.

Turn some of those bogeys into birdies. The putter — next to a cold beer, it is the golfer's best friend.

IM basketball season starts

by RODNEY MALLETT
Sports Reporter

The 1987 Intramural basketball season has just begun and already a couple of things have been established. First, ...And Then Some... has established themselves as the team to beat. They won the pre-season tournament and have won each of their first two season games by more than 30 points. The second, Mike Little was the first person to be thrown out of a game with two technicals.

The basketball schedule has 3 divisions. Division I is for the better teams, II has some good talent, and III is mainly people who are out of shape. The Fraternities and the girls each have a league to themselves. The standings so far are as follows.

In Division I ...And Then Some... has jumped off to a 2-0 start. They defeated BSU 74-47, behind Ron Cheatham's 23 points, and LCR 83-58. David Webb had 24 for the winners and Walter Burnon scored 20 in the losing effort. The second place team is ROTC with a 1-0 record. The lone win was against GUS. Tony Moore scored 18. BSU is 1-1. After the loss to ATS they pulled together to defeat GUS, who is last in the division, 0-2.

In Division II the Celtics are undefeated after two games. They beat the Fitters 52-40 with Dwayne Cox good for 18 points. They also beat the Bricklayers 69-60. Jemos Maxey had 20 for the Celtics and Edward Lee had 20 for the Bricklayers. The Bricklayers are 1-1. They won their first game 83-40 over the Cobras. Three players hit the 20 point mark. Reginald Horton, 22, Edward Lee, 21, and Barry Thomas had 20. They lost their

second game to the Celtics. Tied with the Bricklayers are the Fitters. The Fitters lost their opener to the Celtics but won their second game against the Cobras 57-41. Dave Rak had 20 for the winners and Brian Wooten had 21 for the Cobras. The Cobras are 0-2.

The Schmegs are up 2-0 in Division Three. They beat BSU II 46-20 behind Scott Heno's 19 point effort. The Grade Enforcers fell 40-31. The number two team thus far is The Bruthas, who lost the opening game to the Grade Enforcers 40-38 in a game that went into overtime. The lone win game against BSU II 52-26. Jim Cherry was a dominate force scoring 15 and blocking 8 shots. The Grade Enforcers are also 1-1 with the OT win against the Bruthas and the loss coming against the Schmegs. BSU II brings up the rear at 0-2.

In the Frat league, the Kappa

Sig Red and the Phi Delta Theta teams are undefeated. The Red team defeated the Crusaders 41-27 and Phi Delta Theta beat Kappa Sigma Green 68-30, with Lon Smith scoring 20.

IM BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Fraternity League

Kappa Sig Red vs Phi Delta Theta
Kappa Alpha vs Kappa Sig Green
Wed. Feb. 18

Women Frat League

ZTA vs Dunking Darlings
Immobolizers vs Phi Mu
Thurs. Feb. 19

Division I

LCR vs BSU
And Then Some... vs ROTC
Wed. Feb. 18

Division II

Fitters vs Celtics
Monday, Feb. 16

Celtics vs Cobras
Wed., Feb. 18

Fitters vs Bricklayers
Th., Feb. 19

Division III

Enforcers vs Schmegs
BSU vs Bruthas
Monday Feb. 16

Grade Enforcers vs BSU II
Bruthas vs Schmegs

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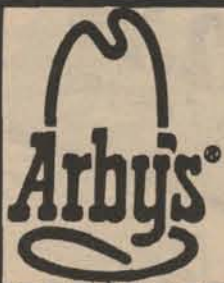
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